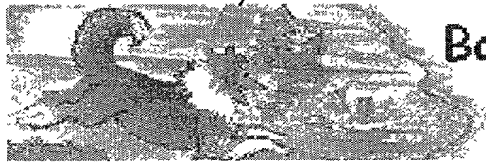


- PRIOR ART -

Fig. 1

215



Barking Up The Right Tree!

200

The Lion Squeaks Tonight!

by Daniel Castle - May 1, 2000

We have four dogs, but no children. I am sure you've heard people tell about their dogs as their "kids", and I suppose that we try to treat our dogs as our children, but this is really a different way when raising dogs and raising human children. We often speak the benefits of dogs to children. From the smallest child, our dogs will learn to cringe and flinch over a liquid spill to the advanced teenager of our dogs' college education. We certainly hope of the crowbars of dogs over their backs as the younger expected "leapers" and the high improbability that they will support us during our old age.

One difference that we have thought of as a benefit, but that I now believe may be a drawback, is that dogs don't want to buy stuff. Neither of our Collies ever asked for same brand sneakers (which is good, as such would need two pairs) and neither of our Belgian Shepherds are concerned about looking like "sneakers" in obedience school. All our dogs want is our undivided attention, food, and something to chew on (other than their brand sneakers).

This understanding nature of dogs is a great benefit until you decide you want to buy your dogs a gift. While it is difficult to find a gift for

210

someone who has everything, it is even harder to find a gift for someone who really doesn't want the Belgian Sheepdog. Many dogs Christmas - but only because he gets a big party pack up. Really, I really don't give a damn about what he gets. My human kids would be playing happily with their friends, and even their dogs after school. Unfortunately, all that I can do for dogs after school is to get up little bits of money to buy a gift.

One difference that we have thought of as a benefit, but that I now believe may be a drawback, is that dogs don't want to buy stuff.

Neither of our Collies have asked for same brand sneakers (which is good, as such would need two pairs) and neither of our Belgian Shepherds are concerned about looking like "sneakers" in obedience school. All our dogs want is our undivided attention, food, and something to chew on (other than their brand sneakers).

Apparel is fairly limited unless you are fortunate enough to have a friend that does not have the word "dog" in its breed description. While our Belgian Shepherds do not worry, they



220

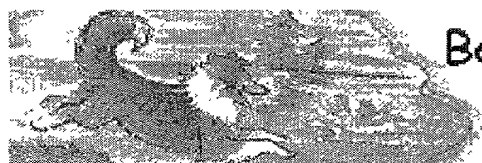


221



222

Fig. 2



Barking Up The Right Tree!

The Lion Squeaks Tonight!

400
by Daniel Cook - May 1, 2000

We have four dogs, but no children. I'm sure you've heard people talk about their dogs as their children, and I suppose that we try to treat our dogs as our children, but there really are differences between raising dogs and raising (human) children. We often count the benefits of dogs over children, from the small likelihood our dogs will turn to crime and knock over a figure skater to the expected lower cost of our dogs' college education. We do admit to some of the drawbacks of dogs over children, such as their shorter expected lifespans and the high improbability that they will sign autographs during our old age.

One difference that we have thought of as a benefit, but that I now believe may be a drawback, is that dogs don't want to buy stuff. Neither of our Collies have asked for name-brand sports shoes (which is good, as each would need two pairs), and neither of our Belgian Sheepdogs are concerned about looking like "dweebs" in obedience school. All our dogs want is our undivided attention, food, and something to chew on (other than name-brand sports shoes).

This understanding nature of dogs is a great benefit until you decide you want to buy your dogs a gift. While it is difficult to find a gift for someone who has everything, it is even harder to find a gift for

someone who really doesn't care. Our Belgian Sheepdog, Stormy, loves Christmas - but only because he gets to rip every package open. He really doesn't give a damn about what's inside. Where Lu and Kiva would be playing happily with their Christmas presents for days afterward, Stormy's theoretical gift all he really does for days afterward is cough up little bits of wrapping paper.

One difference that we have thought of as a benefit, but that I now believe may be a drawback,

is that dogs don't want to buy stuff. Neither of our Collies have asked for name-brand sports shoes (which is good, as each would need two pairs), and neither of our Belgian Sheepdogs are concerned about looking like "dweebs" in obedience school. All our dogs want is our undivided attention, food, and something to chew on (other than name-brand sports shoes).

Apparel is fairly limited unless you are fortunate enough to have a breed that does not have the word "dumb" in its breed standard. While our Belgian Sheepdogs do not worry they will look like "dweebs" without the best clothes, they do seem to worry about wearing things that would make them look less-than-ferret. Several are examples of



Fig. 4

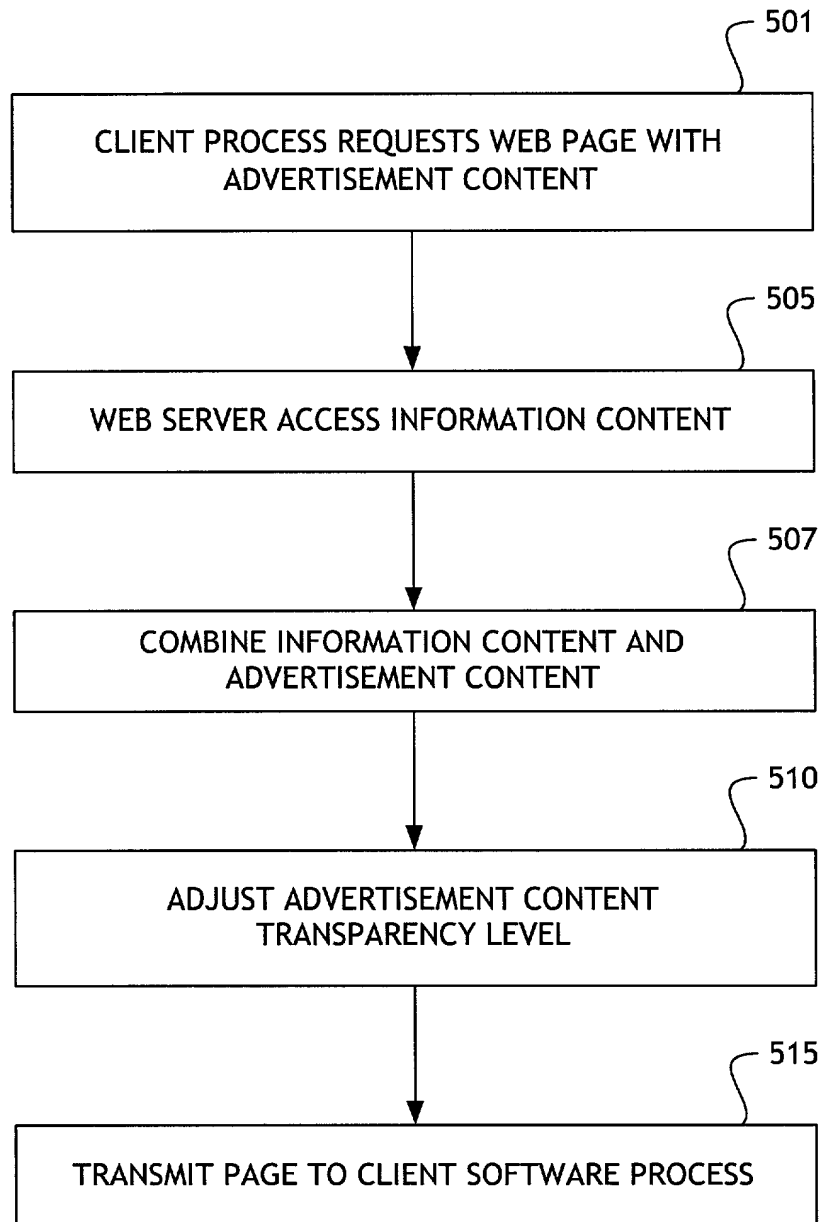


Fig. 5

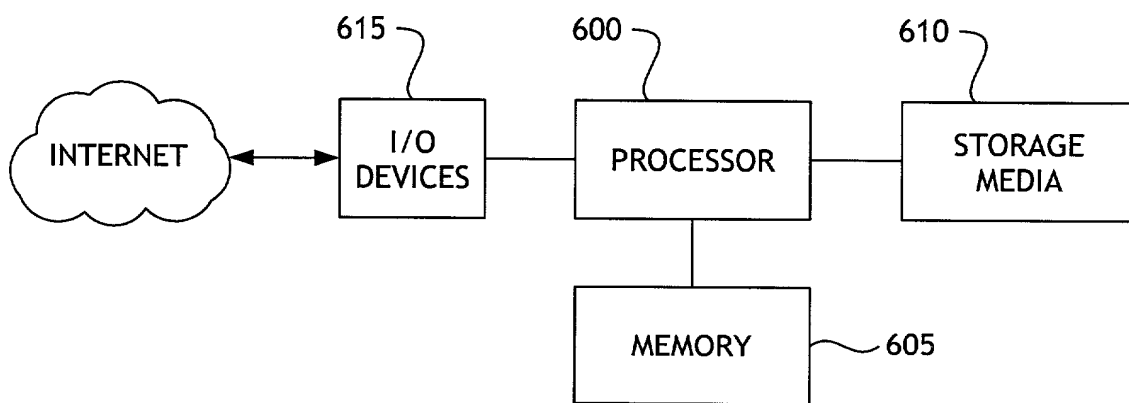


Fig. 6